

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 265268

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SWEL, ET, US

SUBJECT: HARAR EYE CLINIC

1. USN SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE HAS INFORMED US THAT IT PLANS TO RECOMMEND THAT USN CEASE SUPPLYING PERSONNEL FOR HARRAR INTERNATIONAL EYE FOUNDATION (IEF) PROJECT. FINAL DECISION WILL PROBABLY BE TAKEN BY SURGEON GENERAL ON OR ABOUT NOV. 8. DECISION BASED ON FINDINGS DURING RECENT ETHIOPIAN VISIT OF DR. LARRY KING OF IEF.

2. USN DECISION BASED ON LACK OF SECURITY FOR THEIR PERSONNEL IN HARRAR AND DIFFICULTY IN GETTING SUPPLIES, WHETHER FROM OUTSIDE ETHIOPIA THROUGH THEIR OWN CHANNELS OR FROM ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICES. USN DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY OTHER ENTITY WILL BE WILLING TO SUPPLY PER-

SONNEL TO IEF UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS AND, SINCE THERE IS NO ETHIOPIAN PERSONNEL TO TAKE IT OVER, IEF PROJECT WILL CLOSE.

3. USN HAS ASKED FOR STATE DEPARTMENT REACTION TO THIS STEP AND OUR VIEWS ON PROBABLE ETHIOPIAN REACTIONS

AND HOW CLOSURE WILL IMPACT ON US-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

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WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON THESE MATTERS.

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